

REMARKS

Claims 154-156 have been canceled. New claims 162-164 have been added. Claims 142-151, 157 and 159-161 have been amended. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 142-153 and 157-164 will be pending. No claims fees are due as a result of this amendment.

Basis for Amendments

The claims have been amended to improve their readability. In addition, claim 142 has been amended to require removal of dental plaque in mammals. Basis for this amendment is found at page 29, lines 7-10 of the application as originally filed. Claim 142 has also been amended to require that the enzymes be isolated from Antarctic krill. Basis for this amendment is found on page 19, lines 19-20 of the application as originally filed. Basis for the amendment of claim 151 to include a multifunctional enzyme in the enzyme composition is found at page 30, lines 8-22 of the application as originally filed. Basis for the amendment to claim 159 to require at least six proteins is found at page 30, line 10 of the application as originally filed.

Applicant's Co-pending Application

The applicant would like to bring to the attention of the Examiner that there is a co-pending U.S. Patent application no. 10/880,595, which claims the benefit of the same parent applications as the present application.

The Election/Restriction Requirements

Restriction to one of the following inventions was required under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I – Claims 142-149 and 159-161, drawn to methods of removing dental plaque comprising the contacting of the plaque with a mixture of enzymes isolated from krill, and

Group II – Claims 150-158, drawn to methods of removing dental plaque comprising the contacting of the plaque with a multifunctional enzyme.

In response to the restriction, applicant hereby provisionally elects Group I, with traverse. Claims 150-158 have been amended to depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 142. As a result, upon entry of the present amendment all currently pending claims will be directed to the invention of Group I for further prosecution.

In the event that Group I was elected, the Examiner required election of a species of

Group I selected from:

- (a) krill of the genus Euphausia,
- (b) krill of the genus Meganyctiphanes, and
- (c) krill of the genus Thysanoessa.

In response to this requirement for election of a species, applicant hereby provisionally elects species (a) krill of the genus Euphausia, with traverse. This election of species is traversed since it is considered that there would be no undue burden on the Examiner to examine all species of krill claimed in the present application upon entry of the present amendments. More specifically, the present application has been limited “Antarctic” krill which encompass krill of the genus’s Euphausia and Thysanoessa. Thus, since krill from two different genus’s are now claimed, and these krill are related in that they are both classified as Antarctic krill, there is no undue burden to examine both genus’s of krill together. Thus, it is requested that the Examiner examine krill of the genus’s Euphausia and Thysanoessa together.

All pending claims read on the elected species “krill of the genus Euphausia.”

Also, in the event that Group I was elected, the Examiner required election of a combination of two enzymatic activities selected from those claimed in claim 144, as pending prior to issuance of the present Office Action. In response to this requirement, the applicant hereby provisionally elects the activities trypsin and exo-peptidase, with traverse. This election of species is traversed since it is considered that there would be no undue burden on the Examiner to examine the remaining activities of claim 144 since they are all related to trypsin in that all of the remaining activities are endo-peptidase activities. Thus, it is requested that the Examiner examine all of these activities together in the present application.

All currently pending claims read on the elected species of enzyme compositions having trypsin and an exo-peptidase activity.

Reference to Prior Applications in the Specification

The applicant would like to thank the Examiner for calling applicant’s attention to the deficiency in the specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a). To address this issue, the applicant filed a separate petition to accept an unintentionally delayed claim for priority on 23 August 2006 in the present application.

Oath/Declaration

The Examiner objected to the oath or declaration as being defective on the basis that it did not identify the application by the application number and filing date as required. This objection is traversed on the basis that a correct oath or declaration was filed in the above-identified application on October 14, 2004, which oath or declaration identifies the application by application number and filing date. Favorable consideration and withdrawal of the objection to the oath or declaration is requested on this basis.

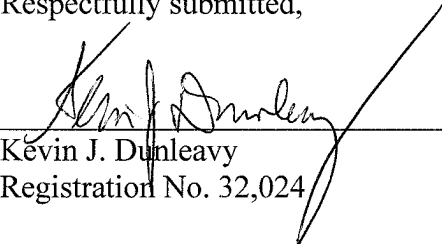
Information Disclosure Statement

Enclosed herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement. This Information Disclosure Statement lists the references that were cited in the parent applications and adds citation of the patents and published applications that resulted from the parent applications. A fee of \$180 is paid herewith to ensure consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. The Examiner is requested to initial and return the forms PTO-1449 indicating consideration of the cited references.

Favorable consideration, entry of the amendment and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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